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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5, 2007

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Gamal Mubarak Addresses Members of the Press

National Democratic Party Assistant Secretary Takes Tough Questions, Discusses Reform

CAIRO, Egypt (November 5, 2007) -- Assistant Secretary General and Chairman of the Policies Committee of the National Democratic Party (NDP) Gamal Mubarak hosted a well-attended and lively press conference today, adding to a successful third day of the NDP's general convention.

Mr. Mubarak handled queries from the Egyptian press and journalists from across the globe, including Al Jazeera, the Associated Press, United Press International and Reuters among many others. The topics of their questions varied from the state of the Egyptian democracy to political reforms and decentralization. Specific attention was paid to the issue of presidential succession, as well as the social implications of democratic reform and economic policy.

"Egypt has a very clear constitutional framework. The nation will determine its next president through a set legislative process for succession," Mr. Mubarak said.

When asked numerous times about his personal aspirations, Mr. Mubarak stated: "The media will continue to talk about my plans and that is your job. I have a job to do at the NDP, and I intend to fulfill the duties of my position."

At the same time, Mubarak added: "Democracy in Egypt will not just be resolved at the national level. I want to stress that citizens voted in 6,300 local party branches from across the country to determine their local leadership. Democracy at all levels of society is equally important."

When asked if the party has changed enough, Mr. Mubarak said: "Reform is a continuous process. Over the past three years, numerous steps have been taken and instituted in our constitution. We will continue to take steps to strengthen the pillars of our democratic process, and intend to be held accountable by the voter for the progress we have or have not made."

Addressing the phenomenal growth and economic reform Egypt has seen in recent years, Mubarak stated: "The Egyptian economy is seeing real change and growth. Is this enough? The answer is no. We must continue on a path to create more jobs growth commensurate with growth in other areas of the economy."

For more information visit www.ndp.org.eg/en.

NOTE: This information has been distributed by Qorvis Communications, LLC, on behalf of Mr. Ahmed Ezz. More information is available at the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5, 2007

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Prime Minister Nazif Reports to National Democratic Party Conference on an Era of Reform in Government

NDP Government to Continue to Address the Challenges Faced by the Egyptian People

CAIRO, Egypt (November 5, 2007) – Egypt's Prime Minister Ahmed Nazif delivered an assessment of his government's recent progress and future challenges to delegates of the National Democratic Party today at the party's Ninth General Conference.

The Prime Minister highlighted the government's success in diversifying the economy and fostering job growth, as well as in expanding agriculture, local infrastructure, and the information technologies and financial services sectors.

"As the head of the government today, I am going to talk about the challenges we still face. This includes a major focus on the overpopulation issue and inflation. Despite these challenges the economy is growing," continued Prime Minister Nazif.

"Economic growth has increased by seven percent in the past two years," stated Prime Minister Nazif. The significant reform policies carried out by the NDP government prompted the World Bank to classify Egypt as the best reforming country in 2007 at the level of business climate in their *Doing Business 2008* report. Brave reform has enabled Egypt to become one of the fastest growing countries in the world, and we must not stop now. We must continue to find ways to diversify and grow our economy."

The Prime Minister said the party has a key role in realizing social justice, organizing the mechanisms of the marketplace, and providing basic public services.

"How can we translate sector growth into a reality that Egyptian citizens—throughout the country—can feel? This is the challenge we must confront."

The Prime Minister said the NDP government would continue to confront new challenges by overcoming the hardships of the past. This conference dedicated itself to strengthening the rights of citizenship, the principles of democracy, and the enactment of constitutional amendments, which will reinforce the building blocks of the civil society.

"No international investor will invest in a country that is unstable or has problems," concluded Nazif. "The NDP government will continue these reforms to move the country forward and create a stable and vibrant Egypt. We will achieve social justice through economic growth."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 3, 2007

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The National Democratic Party of Egypt Convenes Its 9th General Convention

More than 6,700 delegates gather for the first time in 5 years to discuss country's most pressing issues.

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 3, 2007) – Today, proceedings began for Egypt's 9th National Democratic Party (NDP) Convention. For the first time since 2002, more than 6,700 delegates from all over Egypt gathered to implement a strategic vision in four key policy areas: Investment and Employment, Social Justice, Democracy and Citizenship, and National Security.

Conference delegates are dedicated to strengthening the rights of citizenship, the principles of democracy, and the enactment of constitutional amendments which will reinforce the building blocks of civil society. Through the policy committee, chaired by Mr. Gamal Mubarak, the NDP will address important socio-economic issues to confront the challenges Egypt faces today.

"The future prosperity and security of Egypt is rooted in the actions we are taking during this historic and important convention," said Dr. Mohamad Kamal, the NDP's secretary of political education and training. "The NDP is committed to reforms that improve the life of every Egyptian."

The convention was met with anticipation and enthusiasm, as NDP leaders and delegates gathered for day-one of what will be four days of meetings, panels and discussions to change Egypt for the better.

From November 3-6, NDP delegates are in Cairo to engage in debate on Egypt's most pressing issues. Healthcare, agricultural expansion, security, transportation, education, economic growth and political reforms will be reviewed and discussed by various committees, with an emphasis on legislative measures to improve each. One of the most pressing issues is the debate on a new anti-terror law, drafted by the NDP to upgrade its emergency response measures and fight extremism.

"The NDP is a dynamic and committed party, working to move all of Egypt forward," concluded Dr. Kamal. "This conference is a just culmination of the pragmatic and tangible reforms and economic growth the party has achieved over the past five years."

Members of the press in the U.S. interested in observing the convention should contact George Atallah at +1-202-680-0238 or gatallah@qorvis.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 30, 2007

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Egypt's National Democratic Party Convenes Its General Convention

2007 NDP Conference Delegates Will Vote on Leadership and Address Reforms

CAIRO, EGYPT (October 30, 2007) – The National Democratic Party (NDP) of Egypt is convening from November 3-6 in Cairo for the first time as a General Convention since 2002. The NDP delegates will gather to discuss the party's platform and proposed reforms. In addition, there will be an election to determine the party's leadership.

NDP delegates are set to engage in debate on an important series of issues, including the country's current policies on energy, national security, education, healthcare and political reforms. Outcomes from the convention are expected to have a significant impact on the country's policies, since the NDP is the mainstream-majority party in Egypt.

"Egypt is facing many challenges, and this convention gives the NDP an opportunity to provide real solutions to these issues," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, secretary of political education and training for the NDP. "The party has evolved dramatically, and we are looking forward to showing the world that the democratic process is alive and well in Egypt, and that it can lead to real progress."

Several specific legislative initiatives of importance will be introduced, including the institution of an anti-terrorism law, the creation of a freedom of information law and the decentralization of the central government.

"These are historic developments within the NDP, and of course, for Egypt," said Kamal. "Our goal is to create an agenda and a framework to improve the lives of all Egyptians."

The current party platform embraces the principles of free-market economy, the strengthening of democracy, women's empowerment and protecting social justice. The four-day proceedings will feature several key speeches, issue-based panels and policy making sessions.

Members of the press interested in attending the convention should contact George Atallah at +1-202-680-0238 or gatallah@qorvis.com

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For Immediate Release
November 4, 2007

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Democratic Reforms Move Forward at Egyptian Party Conference

*National Democratic Party commits to opening public participation and expanding
citizen rights*

CAIRO, Egypt (November 4, 2007) – In today's session of the Ninth General Conference of the Egyptian National Democratic Party (NDP), delegates reaffirmed their dedication to strengthening Egypt's citizenship rights and democracy. The party's conference marked the culmination of constitutional and legislative reforms which support democratic principles, including, increased power sharing across branches of government, a system of checks and balances, the fostering of a multiparty system and support for an open electoral process.

"This conference marks a new stage in the era of democratic reform in Egypt," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, Secretary of Political Education and Training. "Through constitutional changes, the NDP is building a better government that works for the people and protects their representative rights."

Through support for the decentralization of the national government, the NDP is encouraging the delegation of more power to local communities and the expansion of political participation, especially at the local level. The NDP is taking concrete steps to widen the circle of participation and bring more people into the political process, particularly women, younger voters and people from rural communities.

The NDP has endorsed constitutional changes that opens the electoral process and established competitive, multiparty elections at the highest levels of government.

"The NDP is studying the electoral system that will be best for all parties and the country as a whole," continued Kamal. "We have recently ratified amendments that increase the participation of women in parliament."

With an introduction of anti-terrorism recommendations today, NDP leaders are working on legislation to maintain the security of the nation while also securing the rights of the individual.

"We have lived under an emergency law for years," said Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Mofid Shehab. "This anti-terrorism act will end the state of emergency, and this is important for democracy."

Delegates also endorsed the freedom of information law that will provide transparency in government and guarantee the rights of citizens to disseminate information.

"Our work today is not only about concepts and written amendments, but actions and initiatives, concluded Safwat el-Sherif, General Secretary. "Our work today is about actions not words."

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November 1, 2007

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Sweeping Economic Reforms to be Instituted at Egypt's National Democratic Party Convention

*Officials stress investment and employment policies as a foundation for continued
economic growth and prosperity in Egypt*

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 1, 2007) – At this year's general conference, the National Democratic Party of Egypt (NDP) will institute important economic reforms to improve Egypt's business climate by focusing on boosting investment and employment. The NDP is expanding the country's economic policies in four spheres: Investment and Job Growth; Infrastructure Development; State-Owned Asset Management Policy; and Financial Sector Development.

"Our goal is to establish strong economic policies, providing all Egyptians with the best opportunity for jobs and economic opportunity," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, secretary of political education and training. "We are proud of our recent track record – the economy has grown by 7 percent in the past year alone – and we would like to build on that. The business climate is strong, and it is important that we make foreign direct investment in Egypt's economy even more attractive."

The four spheres provide the party with a framework for desired economic reforms and initiatives:

1. Investment and Job Growth – Deals with the country's investment policy and the need to improve legislative measures to facilitate investment.
2. Infrastructure Development – Examines the needs of the industrial, agricultural and tourism sectors in Upper Egypt.
3. State-Owned Asset Management – Deals with oversight of state-owned investments.
4. Financial Sector Development – Dedicated to developing and encouraging the growth of the financial sector. Both banking and non-banking financial institutions are critical to supporting the growth of the country, and the NDP will look at ways to stimulate private growth in this area.

NDP leadership has made economic growth a priority and has organized several panels and sessions that focus on introducing bolder programs to foster economic prosperity. An emphasis on greater social justice and equal opportunity as foundations for all four economic policy spheres is being stressed by party officials throughout the meetings.

Members of the press interested in attending the convention should contact George Atallah at +1-202-680-0238 or gatallah@qorvis.com

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November 4, 2007

Contact: George Atallah
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Gamal Mubarak Opens Second Day of NDP Conference with Address to All Egyptians

Calls for Greater Transparency in the Party and Government

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 4, 2007) – In a broad speech covering the economy, education, and healthcare, The Assistant Secretary of Egypt's National Democratic Party (NDP), Gamal Mubarak, spoke passionately to the issues that most greatly impact the average Egyptian and their families. While recognizing the progress the party has made since it last met five years ago, Mr. Mubarak outlined future goals and initiatives designed to bolster economic and social opportunities, especially at the local level, for working families and the poor.

"The problems of all Egyptians are the priorities of our party," said Mr. Mubarak. "The political activities and actions of the NDP are working at the local level, to the benefit of the villages, the families and the hard-working people of Egypt. Their needs are for more jobs, better schools, improved healthcare and greater access to basic infrastructure -- and that is what our party is working to provide."

Economic growth and job creation was a major focus of Mr. Mubarak's address. Pointing to the economic reforms that have been implemented over the past two years, Mr. Mubarak highlighted the impact of recent banking reforms, tax cuts, and other investment initiatives which have resulted in economic growth of more than six percent and the creation of more than 1.5 million new jobs.

"Our economy was once discouraging to investors at home and abroad," said Mr. Mubarak. "But as a result of our initiatives, today Egypt is considered to be one of the most promising areas in the world for investment. There is a new atmosphere of confidence. And as our Arab brethren look for places to invest, they are looking to Egypt."

Mr. Mubarak outlined plans for nearly four billion dollars in investment by the public sector for economic growth and job creation and he pledged greater transparency in the allocation of these investments and the economic impact they generate.

According to Mr. Mubarak, "If we stay on our path of economic reform and investment, we will generate more than four and half million new jobs, which are needed by the many people seeking jobs today and the more than six hundred thousand people that look to enter the job market each year."

Turning to education and healthcare, Mr. Mubarak recognized the problems of overcrowding in schools and the need for more vocational training and he highlighted the significant investments that have been pledged to address these problems. He also praised the first comprehensive health insurance program that is set to begin this year.

"Average families cannot thrive and prosper if they do not have access to quality healthcare and adequate insurance to pay for their health care needs," said Mr. Mubarak.

Over the past two years, Mr. Mubarak has visited scores of towns and has met with thousands of people working at the local level to help achieve the vision of the NDP.

"Across the country, the party is working at the local level to build a better future, especially for those in need," said Mr. Mubarak. "Social justice and the fight against poverty stand at the top of our agenda."

While noting that there is much more work to be done, Mr. Mubarak praised the work of the party over the past five years and the progress that has been made.

"Five years ago, there was no vision for political reform. But today, we have endorsed constitutional amendments to further democratic principles, including a system of checks and balances, the fostering of a multiparty system, and the process of open elections. We can also point to significant achievements in the area of human rights, including the formation of a National Council on Human Rights. And, perhaps most important, we have worked to empower women through equality of citizenship and greater social justice for all," said Mr. Mubarak. "There is no discrimination on the basis of religion, race or gender and no place in our society for extremism."

Commenting on the deliberations of the party conference, Mr. Mubarak restated the party's continued commitment to openness and transparency.

Concluded Mr. Mubarak, "We encourage everyone to examine our achievements and our failures and we continue to encourage open debate, because debate and dialogue is one of the great strengths of our party."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 3, 2007

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President Mubarak Addresses 9th National Democratic Party (NDP) Conference

Receives Overwhelming Support at First Open Election Held by NDP

CAIRO, EGYPT (November, 3 2007), The National Democratic Party convened today and for the first time held open elections for the party's leadership. Over the past several months, hundreds of local, regional and national posts have been chosen by open election, culminating in today's near unanimous election of President Hosni Mubarak as head of the party, by the 6,700 delegates of the NDP.

Following his election, President Mubarak addressed the NDP membership, drawing attention to the end of the tradition of political appointments and the beginning of a new era of open elections that cover all levels of the party structure, from the local level to the highest office.

"From Egypt's own soil has emerged new democratic principles and processes for the party and I am delighted with the accomplishments we have made today," said President Mubarak. "But is what we have accomplished, enough?"

President Mubarak urged the party conference to continue on the path of political, economic and social reform and to make the important constitutional and other changes which have been implemented at the conference just a beginning.

"We still have a long way to go and we should never be satisfied with what we have accomplished" said the President. "We have come to this conference fully convinced that we are more capable of leading the way in this country to an even greater future."

The President highlighted the work of the party to implement the four strategic areas of reform including; Investment and Employment, Social Justice, Democracy and Citizenship, and National Security. However, he continued to urge the members and leaders of the party to go further.

Stated the President, "How can we strengthen the steps we have taken with further actions? What is the path to follow which can attract greater Egyptian, Arab and foreign investment? How can we improve our regulatory structure to attract investment? How can we open our political system for greater involvement by our youth, and especially women? These questions and many other issues lay before this party and must be addressed to ensure that Egypt remains on the path towards a better tomorrow."

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November 3, 2007

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The National Democratic Party Calls for Energy Independence for Egypt

President Mubarak tells delegates the nation must foster autonomous energy sources

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 3, 2007) – Today, President Hosni Mubarak told more than 6,700 delegates of the National Democratic Party that Egypt must embark on a bold path toward energy independence in order to maintain and enhance the country's competitive and economic advantages in the region and around the world.

"The preservation of Egypt's national security and sovereignty in a difficult and conflict-ridden region is the motivation for seeking independent energy resources," said the President. "A sustainable energy program for Egypt can be achieved only through securing the supplies for and production of electricity, water and other energy resources. Part of this sustainable energy program will include a peaceful nuclear energy initiative."

Under the new energy plan, Egypt would build a series of nuclear power plants to provide inexpensive, reliable and clean energy to the Egyptian people.

Today's announcement is one part of the National Democratic Party's platform to meet the energy and economic needs of all Egyptian people. The energy platform, as adopted by the delegates of the NDP, includes the development of energy projects in Egypt, attracting investment in renewable energy infrastructure, and investment in non-traditional energy resources.

The goal of the NDP is to create strong and secure energy resources and infrastructure that will make Egypt a regional center for exchanging oil, natural gas, and electricity.

The more than 6,700 conference delegates are gathered in Cairo from November 3-6 for the 9th General Convention of the National Democratic Party. This is the first convening of the party since 2002. This year's conference was marked by the first open election of party leadership, including the election of President Mubarak as head of the Party.

Conference delegates will debate and vote on the party's policies on a wide range of issues, including energy, national security, education, healthcare and political and economic reforms.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 31, 2007

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National Democratic Party Embarks on Ambitious Agenda of Political Reform at 2007 General Conference

Representatives From Across Egypt Will Mark Significant Policy Advances

CAIRO, EGYPT (October 31, 2007) – Today, the National Democratic Party of Egypt announced that the 2007 General Conference will build upon and solidify the party's robust era of political transformation. NDP delegates will review the progress that party officials have made during the last year and lay out an ambitious agenda for moving forward. In recent months, the NDP has successfully shepherded the most significant amendments in the areas of legislation, transparency and the oversight of government since the institution of the modern Egyptian constitution in 1971.

"With an eye to the future, the NDP aims to strengthen democracy and the rights of all citizens in Egypt," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, secretary of political education and training. "At all levels of government – from municipal to national – delegates will be working to reinforce the building blocks of our civil society, our constitutional amendments, so we may elevate Egypt and its people to the global stage."

This year's general conference, the first since 2002, will focus on seven main areas of political reform to strengthen the state of Egyptian democracy and the party structure. These include:

1. Supporting the 1971 Constitution and Recent Amendments
2. Fostering a Multiparty System
3. Ensuring the Rule of Law and Swift Justice
4. Strengthening Public Freedoms and Individual Rights
5. Supporting Organizations of Civil Society
6. Empowering Women
7. Encouraging the Growth of Municipal and Local Democracy

These key areas will be reflected in legislative action at the convention and will address a number of important issues for the Egyptian people. An Anti-Terrorism Act will be introduced that will maintain the security of the homeland; secure the rights of the individual; provide a precise definition of terrorism, organize fair and speedy trials for accused terrorists; crack down on terrorist financing; and expand international cooperation. Delegates will discuss a freedom of information law that will provide transparency in government and guarantee the rights of citizens to disseminate information. Party representatives will also adopt an amendment on professional unions, which will facilitate free and fair elections and allow them to better achieve the goals of their members.

"Conference onlookers will be witnessing the next great achievement in Egypt's storied and extensive history. The NDP is a dynamic party, committed to creating a clear foundation for the future of the Egyptian political system," said Dr. Kamal. "We will enact reforms to strengthen our democracy. We will encourage political participation to improve the lives of our citizens. The NDP will be taking steps to invest immensely in Egypt and its people."

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Healthcare, Education and Public Services Top Agenda at Egypt's NDP Conference

Leaders stress the need to invest in a social agenda

CAIRO, Egypt (November 4, 2007) – With the country enjoying strong economic growth, increasing trade, and strengthening investment from home and abroad, delegates to the 9th General Conference of the National Democratic Party (NDP) set a progressive agenda to reinvest the benefits of economic reform into a social justice agenda. In order to enhance the quality of life for all Egyptians, the NDP party today established policies and goals to bolster the quality of education, increase access to healthcare and improve public services, such as water, sanitation and transportation.

“While we have made significant progress in recent years, we still have a long way to go in order to raise the standard of living for all Egyptians, especially the neediest,” said Minister of Housing Ahmed el-Maghrabi. “The battle for social justice and the elimination of poverty is and will remain high on our agenda.”

“The strategy being promoted by the NDP is to target and help people with the greatest needs. Our plan is to triple the number of people we are able to specifically target with social services,” said Finance Minister Youssef Botrous Ghali. “Next year, we plan to reach more than 3 million people.”

The NDP supports changes to state-provided healthcare through a series of reforms and policy objectives. The party endorses a stronger insurance fund so that all families can afford the quality of care they deserve. Additionally, the party believes that more focus is needed to elevate the care delivered in state-owned hospitals. Officials also stressed the need for greater cooperation from the private sector in the healthcare system; increased training for doctors and nurses; and improved emergency services.

“Comprehensive healthcare insurance is essential to give all families access to quality care,” said Minister of Social Solidarity Ali Moselhi. “We look forward to the implementation of this new social program and are proud of this achievement.”

Transformation of the educational system is also a priority for the NDP. The party recognizes the problems caused by overcrowding of schools and the need for more and better teachers. And, as more young people approach the age where they will begin looking to enter the job market, more vocational training is needed.

The party is also setting a bold agenda for a broad range of public services, including housing, transportation, water resources, and sanitation.

“Social justice is about development, growth and progress,” concluded Chairperson of the Committee on Women Hoda Rashad. “We can’t waste our time with talk. We need to convert policies into action.”

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 2, 2007

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Social Justice Issues Take Main Stage at Egypt's National Democratic Party Convention

Goal to provide access to full healthcare benefits for all Egyptians by 2011; schools to receive new funding for teacher training, student programs; farmers to compete in the global economy

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 2, 2007) – Egypt's healthcare, agricultural and education programs will be major issues on the agenda at the National Democratic Party (NDP) convention, November 3-6, in Cairo. The NDP is looking at ways to accelerate development of a healthcare program that will provide all citizens with full health insurance coverage by 2011. The nation's education system will undergo critical upgrades to programs for teacher training, community involvement, and technical and vocational instruction. Expanding markets for Egyptian farmers is also a major goal that will be addressed.

Dr. Mohamed Kamal, Secretary of Political Education and Training, stated that these are critical steps to improving every Egyptian's quality of life: "We are looking to establish a clear path to providing all Egyptians with universal healthcare, improving education and enabling the Egyptian farmer to compete in a global economy," he said. NDP officials will propose legislative measures to accomplish these goals.

Under the new healthcare proposals, the NDP will establish a health insurance fund for families that are not currently covered. Legislation will provide funding to upgrade current hospital and care facilities by introducing advanced medical equipment. Doctors nationwide will have greater access and opportunities to participate in newer training programs.

Education initiatives will focus on the development of teachers. By creating an increased number of higher education programs, and providing ongoing training, leaders believe the overall quality of education will improve. The NDP believes that vocational training for youth is a focal point that will help prepare them to compete, as job growth and economic prosperity are linked to the success of the country's graduates.

The NDP will take steps to expand means for the Egyptian farmer to increase exports, specifically for crops for which Egypt enjoys a competitive advantage, such as cotton, potatoes, oranges, and medicinal and herbal plants. This will come through the establishment and bolstering of agricultural cooperatives; the Bank of Credit and Agricultural Development; directive agricultural institutions; marketing systems and post-harvest services; farming and reclamation plans; and policies to develop water resources and irrigation systems.

Providing citizens with healthcare, improving Egyptian agriculture and making crucial advancements in education are priority issues for the NDP during this historic convention. The NDP has always stressed the importance of social justice as a contributing factor to elevating overall quality of life for Egyptians and is seizing this unique opportunity to make even greater reforms.

"Achieving universal healthcare, fostering agricultural expansion and providing a comprehensive plan to raise the quality of education are essential actions for moving Egypt forward. The NDP is taking the lead on these important initiatives," concluded Dr. Kamal.

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Egypt's National Democratic Party Welcomes Greater Participation of Women, Youth, and Rural Members

First-Ever Open Elections Also Result in Greater Diversity among Party Membership

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 3, 2007) -- Today, the National Democratic Party (NDP) marked new achievements in its efforts to expand and diversify party membership and set new goals for future improvement. The NDP has not only increased its membership by more than 20 percent, or 422,196 people, since 2005, but has also expanded participation among youth, women and people living in rural communities.

"Through the establishment of open elections at all levels of the party, increased membership, and greater participation at all levels, especially by women, the National Democratic Party is stronger today than at any time in its history," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, Secretary of Political Education and Training. "The NDP believes that comprehensive progress cannot take place without the active participation of women. The NDP has and will continue to take concrete steps to empower women to participate in the political process."

More than 14,000 women were named to local party committees this year. In addition, another 14,000 younger members were added to party leadership at the local level. Since the beginning of the party's campaign to bolster participation among younger generations, the total number of NDP party members who are 18-40 years of age now stands at 65 percent.

"This is a huge achievement for the NDP and Egypt," said Dr. Kamal. "The active involvement of young men and women in the party and their increased participation in party leadership not only strengthens the party today, but also ensures future continuity and the acceleration of our reform agenda to benefit all of Egypt."

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Egypt's National Democratic Party Welcomes Greater Participation of Women, Youth, and Rural Members

First-Ever Open Elections Also Result in Greater Diversity among Party Membership

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 3, 2007) -- Today, the National Democratic Party (NDP) marked new achievements in its efforts to expand and diversify party membership and set new goals for future improvement. The NDP has not only increased its membership by more than 20 percent, or 422,196 people, since 2005, but has also expanded participation among youth, women and people living in rural communities.

"Through the establishment of open elections at all levels of the party, increased membership, and greater participation at all levels, especially by women, the National Democratic Party is stronger today than at any time in its history," said Dr. Mohamed Kamal, Secretary of Political Education and Training. "The NDP believes that comprehensive progress cannot take place without the active participation of women. The NDP has and will continue to take concrete steps to empower women to participate in the political process."

More than 14,000 women were named to local party committees this year. In addition, another 14,000 younger members were added to party leadership at the local level. Since the beginning of the party's campaign to bolster participation among younger generations, the total number of NDP party members who are 18-40 years of age now stands at 65 percent.

"This is a huge achievement for the NDP and Egypt," said Dr. Kamal. "The active involvement of young men and women in the party and their increased participation in party leadership not only strengthens the party today, but also ensures future continuity and the acceleration of our reform agenda to benefit all of Egypt."

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Editors Note: This information has been distributed by Qorvis Communications, LLC, on behalf of Mr. Aluned Fazz. More information is available at the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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Agricultural Agenda for Action Delivered at Egypt's National Democratic Party Convention

Farmer's Priorities Are the Priority of Conference Delegates

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 5, 2007) – Today, officials at the National Democratic Party Convention in Cairo emphasized the importance of agriculture, specifically the role of farmers, in Egyptian society. Through a series of policy discussions, they outlined an agenda to improve the Egyptian farmer's social and economic well-being by enhancing agricultural development to complement Egypt's broader economic development and reforms.

The party reviewed six key elements to enable farmers to become more competitive on the global stage. These included establishing new and bolstering existing agricultural cooperatives; supporting The Bank of Credit and Agricultural Development; fostering directive agricultural institutions; expanding a marketing system and post-harvest services; reviewing farming and reclamation plans; and developing policies to expand water resources and irrigation systems.

"In many ways, the farmer is the foundation of Egyptian society," said Amin Abazza, Minister of Agriculture. "By helping the farmer grow and export his crops, we are helping Egyptian society grow and expand."

Since the party's last convention in 2002, there have been tremendous investment in the agricultural sector, resulting in a clear increase in crop yields and the expansion of farmlands.

Delegates presented ideas to further increase the income levels of farmers and improve their standard of living. A working strategy was discussed to expand the export and production of crops that Egypt produces with a competitive edge, such as cotton, potatoes, oranges, and medicinal and herbal plants. Officials stated that they saw this as a reliable first step to advance competitiveness in foreign markets and to expand the cultivation of other crops.

The party also laid out plans to increase exports to European countries, which represent Egypt's chief trading partners, in addition to expanding other potential markets for Egypt's crops. The party also presented the elements of a marketing and production system for Egyptian cotton.

"In choosing which crops to encourage Egyptian farmers to grow, it is important to take into account price trends and world market demand," concluded Minister Abazza. "Through this ambitious agenda we will cultivate and export more of what world needs, providing our farmers with a better quality of life."

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Party Conference Closes with Direction by President Mubarak to Stay the Course of Change

Four-Day Convention Ends With Optimism Moving Egypt Forward Through Reform

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 6, 2007) – The Ninth Conference of the National Democratic Party (NDP) of Egypt ended today with a speech by President Hosni Mubarak. The historic four-day convention, held in Cairo, gathered more than 6,700 delegates from across the country and covered a wide range of critical issues facing the nation, including democratic reform, national security, economic growth and overpopulation.

“On Saturday, I spoke to you about my wishes for a very successful and worthwhile conference to address Egypt’s problems, continue the nation’s growth, and move the country forward,” said the President. “Today, I can absolutely say that you have worked very hard to deal with the issues of our nation. The NDP is at the helm of Egypt’s march forward.”

President Mubarak told delegates of the need to continue their path forward by addressing political change and democratic reform. He also noted the importance of ensuring that Egypt’s diverse society does not become not segmented by degree of faith or religious affiliation. He stated: “We don’t confuse politics with religion. We aim at political reform as the main pillar of the growing democracy.”

As such, President Mubarak highlighted healthcare, agricultural and education programs, emphasizing the NDP’s commitment to improving the quality of life of all Egyptians. “Social justice is a main cornerstone to the policy of the NDP.... Social justice means widening the circle of growth and development. Social justice will strengthen the tie that binds between the sons of our united country,” he stated.

The President also discussed greater support for teacher training, community involvement by students, and technical and vocational instruction. In the area of agricultural reform, an emphasis on expanding markets for Egyptian farmers was a centerpiece of discussion. In addition, the President stated that, “the government is dedicating another 20 billion Egyptian pounds (\$3.6 billion USD) to fund additional sanitation and drinking water projects in the next three years.”

When addressing Egypt’s population concerns President Mubarak said: “Overpopulation is consuming a huge chunk of revenue that could be used for programs and further reforms. We need to create a social dialogue to deal with this problem at the local and national level. By dealing with overpopulation, we will liberate our lives economically. This is necessary.”

Throughout the conference, some of most ambitious plenary sessions involved Egypt’s energy policy and national security. A program was outlined to introduce clean and renewable energy resources. NDP officials agreed to begin implementation of a plan to produce 20 percent of the country’s energy from renewable sources by 2020. The development of several nuclear plants was also discussed as a way to diversify Egypt’s energy production and consumption.

"We refuse any interference in our internal affairs. We will protect Egypt's stability and national security and will not hesitate to erect peaceful nuclear power plants to fulfill Egypt's needs. We will protect the interests of the people of Egypt wherever they are found."

President Mubarak concluded by making note of the tremendous progress and reforms that were made during the conference and by the party during the past five years.

"I urge you to carry this message of our party to all of those who were not able to attend the conference. Our determination and presence has been tested repeatedly. We have many hopes and ambitions and we believe our abilities will help us move Egypt forward."

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The National Democratic Party Turns Focus to Egypt's Energy Independence

Convention Delegates Reinforce President's Plan to Build Modern Energy Infrastructure

CAIRO, EGYPT (November 5, 2007) – To reaffirm President Mubarak's initiative to modernize Egypt's power infrastructure and diversify the nation's fuel sources, delegates at the National Democratic Party Convention convened a plenary session on the nation's energy development to provide details to the plan.

"The issue of power is being addressed with the understanding that alternative sources of fuel must be found to meet the growing needs of a flourishing Egyptian society," said Hassan Younes, Minister of Electricity. "For Egypt to compete in the global economy, its people and industry must have access to power to fulfill their needs."

The party laid out an ambitious plan to focus on the diversity of energy sources. Over the next ten years, Egypt will diversify its energy system by building and maintaining a series of nuclear plants. Further, officials aim to produce 20 percent of energy from renewable resources by 2020. These include wind, hydroelectric and solar power plants, which will take advantage of Egypt's geography and location.

Egypt is committed to a peaceful nuclear energy program. In the near future, the government plans to identify the best locations to build the power plants.

"By developing the nation's energy supply, we are securing the future of the people of Egypt," continued Minister Younes. "Egypt can play a major role in developing solar power and other technologies that are in demand in the 21st Century. This will create new jobs and educational opportunities."

Officials stated that the energy plan was part of the party's overall development goals. By bringing the plan to fruition, Egypt will guarantee energy sources, production and consumption and institute new technologies.

"The people of Egypt deserve inexpensive, reliable and clean energy. But, energy is not an end in and of itself but a means to achieving the development goals of the National Democratic Party," concluded Minister of Commerce and Industry Rashid Mohamed Rashid.

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